

**Systemic Counselling, System and Family Therapy – a Postgraduate  
Study Course at the Centre for Continuing Education  
at the Carl von Ossietzky University**

The case study focuses upon the question/challenge of developing a flexible programme of part time postgraduate study for professionals, capturing life and work experience within the learning process and providing students with the ability to translate acquired knowledge into practical application in the workplace

It describes the way in which the Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg developed a postgraduate programme of study for social workers which was both flexible and academically rigorous. It also describes the process of working with the relevant professional body to gain professional accreditation of the award, an important recognition of learning for professionals

The case study illustrates the need to integrate personal development and the development of self-awareness into programmes of study and the importance of reflective practice in professional life. It also demonstrates the need to develop a systematic and structured approach to its inclusion in work based learning programme, the importance (in some cases) of including practicing professionals as tutors on a programme as well as academics and the need to adapt programmes as students' needs change

Key themes

Course design

Flexible learning

Personal development

Postgraduate study

Professional updating

Work based learning (WBL)

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